

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

In the specification on page 20, immediately after line 6 please insert the following heading: BREIF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS.

DETAILED ACTION

3. The Amendment filed by Applicant on 10/13/2009 has been entered.

Allowable Subject Matter/Reasons for Allowance

4. Claims 23-45 are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The closest prior art located or identified by the

Examiner is Solomon. Solomon describes a method for preparing microgels using a composition including a mono ethylenically unsaturated monomer, a multi-ethylenically unsaturated monomer, a source of free radicals (AIBN) and an alkoxyamine as control agents. See Solomon, page 2, lines 3-25; Example. The present invention differs from Solomon in that the present invention requires a polymer comprising one or more thiocarbonylthio groups.

6. As of the date of this Notice of Allowability, the Examiner has not located or identified any reference that can be used singularly or in combination with another reference including Solomon to render the present invention anticipated or obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

7. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert D.

Harlan whose telephone number is (571) 272-1102. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thu, 10 AM - 8 PM.

9. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David W. Wu can be reached on (571) 273-1114. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

10. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Robert D. Harlan/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1796

rdh